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Statement on the second annual session of the Peacebuilding Commission

The 2015 annual session of the Peacebuilding Commission was held in New York on 23 June. The purpose of the annual session is to facilitate close interaction and engagement among relevant stakeholders to further strengthen the relevance and coherence of the Commission as the key intergovernmental advisory organ on post-conflict peacebuilding at the United Nations. The focus of the 2015 session was on the predictability of peacebuilding funding, as well as the effectiveness of domestic resource mobilization for peacebuilding, and concluded the following:

Unpredictable, inadequate and fragmented financing for peacebuilding is hampering the effectiveness and coherence of international support to post-conflict countries and adds unnecessary burdens to host Governments. In addition, difficulties in mobilizing domestic resources in post-conflict countries continue to be a main challenge for sustainable peacebuilding.

Moving forward, adequate, predictable, coherent and context-specific international financing for sustaining peace is needed. Flexible funding that allows for risk-taking would enable more effective international support. There is a need to identify priority areas where gaps remain and to consider ways to ensure adequate resources for United Nations peacebuilding support, in order to address root causes of conflict, and in particular for key peacebuilding tasks, including support to political processes, security sector reform and support to the justice sector. In this regard, multi-year funding commitments to the Peacebuilding Fund would enable it to leverage its comparative advantages, including rapid support, filling gaps, incentivizing integration across the United Nations system and taking risks.

Furthermore, channelling larger portions of funding through national systems of post-conflict countries, where appropriate, can help enhance sustainability and contribute to long-term capacity-building and national ownership, as well as to building trust in and legitimacy of Governments and their capacities to deliver basic services. There is also a need to step up global efforts aimed at spurring sustainable economic investments in post-conflict countries.

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